Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend claim 13 and 14 as shown below in the List of Claims.

List of Claims:

1-12. Cancelled.

13. (Currently amended) A method for assaying a test compound for its ability to alter the expression of the human amyloid precursor protein, comprising:

a) preparing a vector for recombinantly expressing a peptide or protein in a eukaryotic cell, wherein said vector comprises:

i) a promoter which is active in said eukaryotic cell;

ii) a translation enhancer element consisting essentially of the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, wherein said element is 3′ to said promoter;

iii) a DNA sequence encoding said peptide or protein, wherein said DNA sequence:

aa) lies 3′ to said translation enhancer element;

bb) is operably linked to said promoter; and

cc) is non-homologous to said translation enhancer element;

b) measuring the expression of said ~~gene~~ peptide or protein in said vector in the absence of said test compound; and

c) comparing the expression determined in step b) with the expression of said ~~gene~~ peptide or protein in the presence of said test compound.

14. (Currently amended) The method of claim 13, further comprising transforming a host cell with said vector prior to measuring the expression of said ~~gene~~ peptide or protein.

15. (Previously presented) The method of claim 13, wherein said test compound comprises a nucleic acid sequence complementary to a region of SEQ ID NO:1 at least 10 base pairs in length.

16. (Previously presented) The method of claim 13, wherein said test compound is an RNA targeting compound.

17. (Previously presented) The method of claim 14, wherein said host cell is an astrocyte or astrocytoma cell.

18. (Previously presented) The method of any one of claims 13-17, wherein said assay is carried out in the presence of one or more cytokines.

19. (Previously presented) The method of any one of claims 13-17, wherein said assay is carried out in the presence of either interleukin-1α or interleukin-1β.

20. (Previously presented) The method of any one of claim 13-17, wherein said method includes measuring mRNA levels of said protein or peptide.

21. (Previously presented) The method of claim 20, wherein said assay is carried out in the presence of one or more cytokines.

22. (Previously presented) The method of claim 20, wherein said assay is carried out in the presence of either interleukin-1α or interleukin-1β.